

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 are pending. By this amendment, claims 2-5 and 17-18 are cancelled and claims 1, 6-9, 15, and 19 are amended. Support for the amendment can be found at least at page 7, lines 7, 13, and 19, and page 8, lines 7-18 of the specification and original claim 15. No new matter is introduced. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Entry of the above amendments is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 because the amendments (1) place the claims in better form for appeal if needed; and (2) do not introduce any elements requiring further search by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 18 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 3 and 18 have been cancelled, rendering the objection of claims 3 and 18 moot.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claims 3-5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 3-5 have been cancelled, rendering the rejection of claims 3-5 moot. Claim 11 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis. Withdrawal of the claim rejection of claim 11 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,282,581 to Moore et al. (hereafter Moore). The Office Action asserts on page 3 that "Moore teaches the invention as claimed, including a method of error recovery of a remote method invocation (RMI) process." The Office Action further asserts on page 4 that Moore teaches "rebinding the parent process with an active RMI process when the thread determines that its parent process is not bound with an active RMI process (col. 18 lines 20-22)." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2-5 and 17-18 are cancelled, rendering the rejection of claims 2-5 and 17-18 moot.

Moore is directed to a communications framework that is operable to support remote method invocation in a distributed object environment. Moore's method focuses on the binding and marshalling processes that enable a RMI process to function. Figures 12 and 13 are flow charts that illustrate the operation of the decision logic of the Stub and Stub objects. Blocks 631, 675, and 677 of Figures 12 and 13 indicate that if a connection cannot be established using all of the currently bound entries, Moore's procedure will return an error message indicating failure. (See column 21, lines 11-17 of Moore.) The failure condition can

be met if the process containing the bound list of RMI interfaces has been restarted and the RMI interfaces have not been rebound. However, Moore's method only reports the failure to the client requesting the interface from the RMI server. Moore's method does not attempt to inform the binding interface of the failure and does not provide error recovery of such failure. Therefore, Moore does not disclose or suggest error recovery by a bound interface object.

Regarding the "rebinding" step, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Moore merely describes, at column 18, lines 20-22, the feature of reconstructing a new client reference:

If the RPC_Client 311 reference is invalid, the profile is considered to be unbound. The profile may still be valid, but a new RPC_Client 31 reference must be constructed using the associated protocol's Info::bind() method. Some RPC_Transports 305 invalidate RPC_Clients 311 as a mechanism of reclaiming under-utilized resources (such as socket descriptors).

Nowhere does the cited language disclose or suggest the step of rebinding the interface object with an active RMI process, thus recovering from the error.

Contrary to Moore, amended claim 1 recites: "[a] method of error recovery of a bound remote method invocation (RMI) interface object, the method comprising ... starting a monitoring agent ... determining if the interface object is bound with the RMI process, wherein if the interface object is not bound with an active RMI process, an error occurs, ... and rebinding the interface object with an active RMI process when the monitoring agent determines that its interface object is not bound with an active RMI process, thereby recovering from the error," (emphasis added). Claim 1 is amended to more precisely recite the novel features of the present application. These features are not disclosed or suggested by Moore. As noted above, Moore merely reports a failure message to a client, and does not perform error recovery by a bound interface object. Since Moore does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of amended claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over Moore. Since the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the elements of amended claim 1, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 6-8 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 1 and for the additional features they recite.

With respect to claim 9, for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 1, Moore does not disclose or suggest "each at least one management process being associated with a monitoring agent ... determining if an interface object of a management process is bound with an RMI process, wherein if the interface object is not bound with an active RMI

process, an error occurs, ... rebinding the interface object with an active RMI process when the monitoring agent determines that the interface object is not bound with an active RMI process, thereby recovering from the error,” as recited in amended claim 9 (emphasis added). Therefore, claim 9 is allowable.

Claims 10-12 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 9 and for the additional features they recite.

With respect to claim 15, for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 1, Moore does not disclose or suggest “[a] method of error recovery of a bound remote method invocation (RMI) interface object, the method comprising: ... performing an initialization call to a monitoring agent associated with the interface object, the monitoring agent ... 1) performing a list call to an active RMI process to determine whether the interface object is bound with the RMI process ... wherein if the interface object is not bound with an active RMI process, an error occurs; 2) performing a rebind call to an active RMI process if the monitoring agent determines that the interface object is not bound with an active RMI process, thereby recovering from the error,” as recited in amended claim 15. Therefore, claim 15 is allowable.

Claims 16 and 19 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 15 and for the additional features they recite.

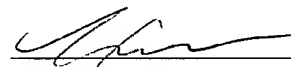
Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 6-16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt examination and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desired in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant’s undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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